

**MINUTES
ENVIRONMENT AND LICENSING COMMITTEE**

Tuesday 10 March 2026

Councillor Alison Hunt (Chair)

Present: Councillor Marje Paling Councillor Julie Najuk
 Councillor Jim Creamer Councillor Clive Towsey-Hinton
 Councillor Rachael Ellis Councillor Paul Wilkinson
 Councillor Andrew Meads

Absent: Councillor Sue Pickering, Councillor Alex Scroggie and Councillor Martin Smith

Officers in A Hutchinson, C Allcock, C Goodall, S Palmer and C Pitcher
Attendance:

10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Pickering, Scroggie and Martin Smith.

11 TO APPROVE, AS A CORRECT RECORD, THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13 JANUARY 2026.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the above meeting, having been circulated, be approved as a correct record.

12 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

None.

13 PROPOSED GENERAL LICENSING FEES FOR 2026/27

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Place, which was circulated in advance of the meeting, seeking approval for a revised set of fees and charges for the licensing service to be introduced from 1 April 2026.

RESOLVED to:

- 1) Approve the revised general licensing fees and charges attached at Appendix 1 for massage and special treatment, ear piercing, acupuncture, tattooing, electrolysis, animal licensing and mobile homes; and
- 2) Approve the price of revisions to be introduced from 1 April 2026.

14 ANY OTHER ITEM WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT.

None.

15 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.

RESOLVED:

That, the Members being satisfied that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the ensuing reports on the grounds that the report involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

16 APPLICATION FOR A ONE YEAR JOINT HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE- JS

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Place which had been circulated prior to the meeting, regarding an application for a one year joint Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence for JS.

JS attended the meeting and he addressed the Committee.

In making its decision, the Committee found that there were exceptional mitigating circumstances which allowed for departure from the Council's approved Policy and Guidelines.

RESOLVED to:

- 1) Approve JS's application for a one year Joint Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence; and
- 2) Issue a warning to the applicant that such conduct fell short of the expected standard for Hackney Carriage Drivers and advised that they re-read the license policy.

17 APPLICATION FOR A THREE YEAR JOINT HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE - MC

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Place which had been circulated prior to the meeting, regarding an application for a three year joint Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence for MC.

MC attended the meeting along with a friend and addressed the Committee.

In making its decision, the Committee found that there were exceptional mitigating circumstances which allowed for departure from the Council's approved Policy and Guidelines.

RESOLVED to:

- 1) Approve JS's application for a three year Joint Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence; and
- 2) Issue a warning to MC that such conduct fell short of the expected standard for Hackney Carriage Drivers and that further such incidents would result in another appearance before the Committee.

18 APPLICATION FOR A THREE YEAR JOINT HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE - MZ

The Chair informed Members that the applicant had withdrawn their application.

19 CHANGE OF CIRCUMSTANCE OF JOINT HACKNEY CARRIAGE / PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE - FJ

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Place, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, regarding a change of circumstances following information received about the holder of a Joint Hackney Carriage/ Private Hire Driver's Licence.

FJ attended the meeting and he addressed the Committee.

In making its decision, the Committee found that there were exceptional mitigating circumstances which allowed for departure from the Council's approved Policy and Guidelines.

RESOLVED to:

Issue a warning to FJ that such conduct fell short of the expected standard for Hackney Carriage Drivers and that further such incidents would result in another appearance before the Committee.

The meeting finished at 5.45 pm

Signed by Chair:
Date: